

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of this amendment, which amends claims 1, 17-19, and 25-26, and cancels claims 16 and 27-29, claims 1-3, 5-15, and 17-26 and 30-33 will be pending. In the office action, claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S. C. §112, first paragraph; claims 1-3, 5-12, 15, and 17-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Abousleman (U. S. Patent No. 6,661,842); claims 13-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Abousleman in view of Jozawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,785,331, hereinafter “Jozawa”); and claims 19 - 26 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Abousleman in view of Fiske (U.S. Patent No. 7,042,587). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments above and remarks below.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Examiner Interview

Applicants thank the examiner for the courtesy of the interview conducted on November 7, 2007. During the interview and in subsequent communications, proposed amendments to claims were submitted. It was agreed upon that the proposed amendments distinguished over the cited references.

Section 112 Rejections

Applicants have cancelled claim 16 and thus the rejection is moot.

Claim Rejections

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Abousleman. Applicants submit that Abousleman does not disclose or suggest determining a check value for the target code word using a result of operating on the target code word with a cue and sending the check value and the index to a decoder, the index allowing identification of

the set of the plurality of code words and the check value allowing the target code word to be determined from the set when a check value calculated for a code word in the set of the plurality of code words when operated on by a cue indicates a match for the sent check value.

Abousleman discloses a transmit and receive code word index (col. 21, lines 62-67 - col. 22, lines 1-4). The indexes are used to identify code words in a code book. The code words are then used in the encoding process. As discussed in the interview, Abousleman does not disclose or suggest determining a check value for the targeted code word using a result of operating on the target code word with a cue. Also, Abousleman does not disclose or suggest sending the check value and the index to a decoder where a target code word is determined from a set when a check value calculated for a code word in the set of the plurality of code words when operated on by a cue indicates a match for the sent check value. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1. Claims 2-3 and 5-15 depend from claim 1 and thus derive patentability at least therefrom. Applicants submit that claims 17-18 should be allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed with respect to claim 1.

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Abousleman. Applicants submit that Abousleman does not disclose or suggest receiving an index and a check value, the check value generated by an encoder using a result of operating a cue on a target code word and determining if the determined code word is the target code word when a check value calculated for the code word in the set of the plurality of code words when operated on by the cue indicates a match for the received check value. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 19. Claims 20-24 depend from claim 19 and thus derive patentability at least therefrom. Applicants submit that claims 25-26 should be allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed with respect to claim 1.

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Applicant respectfully submits that the present claims are in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly sought. The undersigned may be contacted at the telephone number below at the Examiner's convenience if it would help in the prosecution of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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